

Neighborhood

what's going on...

Bring your own bag

By Cynthia Orr

Eastside Voice correspondent

They're popping up everywhere — cloth bags in stores. It's the environmentally responsible thing to do and a lot of stores are adding the incentive of issuing credits when you bring your own shopping bags.

When the original switch came from paper bags which tore easily, to plastic bags that seemed to hold up no matter what the circumstances, it seemed like a step forward. Unfortunately, they take about a bazillion years to disintegrate in landfills and cause other environmental problems as well. There

are ways to re-use them such as lining wastebaskets or following behind the dog on walks in order to keep good will with your neighbors. I've even used them in the yard to pull poison ivy by wearing it reversed over my hand and then folding it down over the obnoxious weed. Filling one with ten others even makes a lightweight "pillow" to use as packing when shipping things. But no matter what I try, they just seem to multiply.

Enter the new cloth bag alternative. They come in all sizes and may sport logos, graphics and other promotional information. Keep a



photo courtesy Cynthia Orr
Bring your own shopping bags to the market; they make an environmental statement as well as a fashion statement!

couple in the car and make it a habit to take an empty one with you every time to head into a store. They are the new fashion accessory that helps the world.



submitted photo
On February 2nd, 2010, Stonybrook Middle School students and their sponsors (Mr. Craig Harvey & Mrs. Becky Taylor, technology education teachers) participated in the 7th annual Engineering Technology Education contest held in the State Rotunda. The judging took place from 12:00-4:00. There were many statewide groups, at many different levels presenting their projects. For the problem solving competition, students had to construct the tallest tower that could support the weight of a gold ball. The winning team from Stonybrook was: Nick Gronemeyer, Olivia Garcia, Chica Ketterman, and Justin Wildrick. Pictured here is the winning team: from left to right, Olivia Garcia, Justin Wildrick, Chica Ketterman and Nick Gronemeyer.

GOT LOCAL NEWS?



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Deadline nears for photo submissions

INDIANAPOLIS — To celebrate Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana's 50th anniversary in 2010, the organization's Southern Regional Office in Jeffersonville is staging a traveling exhibit of photographs depicting historic structures in 25 southern Indiana counties. The deadline is March 1, 2010 for professionals, students, and amateurs of all ages to submit photographs for the traveling exhibit.

To be considered for the exhibit, the historic place must be 50 years old or older and located in one of these southern Indiana counties: Bartholomew, Brown, Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings,

Lawrence, Ohio, Orange, Perry, Pike, Posey, Ripley, Scott, Spencer, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Warrick and Washington. Images may depict structures in any condition from excellent to poor, with or without people.

A jury will select 30 photos to appear in Landmarks through the Viewfinder based on several criteria: originality, photographic quality, the degree to which the image captures the spirit of the historic place and the value of historic preservation, with bonus points for images that reflect the contribution of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana in its 50-year history.

Beginning in May 2010, the exhibit will be displayed

in several public venues in southern Indiana for durations of one to four weeks. The photos will appear in a printed catalog that will be available at each exhibit venue, along with information about the photographer and the site.

A tentative list of sites that will host Landmarks through the Viewfinder includes: Dubois County Museum, Jasper; Evansville Public Library; Jefferson County Historical Heritage Center, Madison; Ohio County Historical Society Museum, Rising Sun; Scott County Heritage Center and Museum, Scottsburg; Visitors Center, Columbus; Carnegie Center for Art and History, New Albany; Veraestau Historic Site, Aurora.

At the photographer's choice, prints of an image selected for Landmarks through the Viewfinder may be listed in the catalog as available for purchase. Historic Landmarks Foundation will connect buyer and seller and will take no commission.

A fee of \$25 covers the submission of up to 5 photographs per entrant. Complete details, including the guidelines, entry form and a list of potential subjects in each county, may be downloaded from the Southern Regional Office page at www.historiclandmarks.org. To have the guidelines and entry form mailed to you, contact Judy Martin, jmartin@historiclandmarks.org, 812-284-4534.

Ball State grad students envision Irvington improvements

INDIANAPOLIS — A group of grad students from the Ball State University Historic Preservation Programs were assigned the task of redeveloping an older shopping area. They chose Irvington Plaza, located in the 6200 block of

very interested area residents. The task was part of a class project, and involved no commitment from officials. However, the exercise provided residents with a lot of food for thought about what is possible in the area.



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